

SMILE ZOLA, NOVELIST AND  
REFORMER 25

finally discussed by the legislature, his ideas found ^Po^ters in General Schneider and M. Dufaure, a subse- ^:rxt prime minister of France.<sup>1</sup> A better result attended ^a/Q invention of an appliance for removing the masses of ^"fctt, -which, he foresaw, would be thrown up in digging the °^fc of the Paris rampart. He patented this invention in ^ 1841, and, after his appliance had been constructed at -works in the Rue de Miromesnil in 1842, it was em- successfully in the excavations at Clignancourt.<sup>2</sup> few months later the indomitable engineer again turned scheme for providing Aix with water. Removing with his wife and child, he signed, in April, 1843, a agreement with the municipality, followed in June by with the mayor of le Tholonet; for a large dam to be constructed near that village, at the entrance of Infernet gorges. But although Zola's earlier sugges- ts\* >xxs tad now prompted the neighbouring city of Marseilles !\*\* \* oixt a canal from Pertuis on the Durance, — an enterprise •sairariLed out by a distinguished engineer named Montrichet utitween 1839 and 1849, — some of the good people of Aix iittl Its vicinity remained uninfluenced by the example, and i long battle ensued. trine waters which Zola had finally decided to bring to Aix rtrore those of the little rivers Causse and

Bayou, and the  
unfenced villages were gradually won over,  
though, now  
in addition, territorial magnates like the Marquis  
de Galliffet,  
**Vixce** de Martigues, — father of the well-  
known general  
**>tlcexr** and owner of the chateau of Le Tholonet,  
— remained

a \*\* Xe Pke d'imile Zola," p. 212 *et se* ^ \*\*La T6rit6 en  
Marche," p. 295

"**I JIM\*?**"  
^-, p. 306.